

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method is disclosed for identifying the intercellular protein factors which cells use to provide developmental signals to adjacent cells in an organism. The method is based on the use of a phage display library of cDNA from the signaling cells. The method is being used to identify the factors produced by fibroblasts which inhibit differentiation in embryonic stem cells, but is broadly useful for identifying the proteins that signal between cells.

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